

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CAPE T 00727 121504Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----099806 121516Z /53

O 121426Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 7092
INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAPE TOWN 0727

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS)
SUBJECT: VANCE/OWEN VISIT TO SOUTH AFRICA

REF: STATE 093304

1. BRITISH CHARGE SUMMERHAYES AND I HAVE JUST COME FROM MEETING WITH BRAND FOURIE AT WHICH WE DELIVERED MESSAGE CONCERNING VANCE/OWEN VISIT CONTAINED REFTEL.
2. FOURIE RAISED NO OBSTACLES TO SUCH A VISIT BUT INDICATED THAT HE WOULD HAVE TO CONSULT BOTHA AND VORSTER BEFORE GIVING REPLY. HE HOPES TO DO THIS LATER THIS AFTERNOON OR TOMORROW MORNING.
3. GIVEN TIME CONSTRAINTS FOURIE SAID IT PROBABLY WOULD BE BETTER TO HAVE MEETING IN PRETORIA AND USE WATERKLOOF AIRPORT FOR AIRCRAFT IN ORDER TO SAVE TIME. WE INDICATED WE WOULD CONVEY THIS TO OUR PRINCIPALS.

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PAGE 02 CAPE T 00727 121504Z

4. IN VIEW OF FOURIE'S SUGGESTION THAT MEETING TAKE PLACE IN PRETORIA AND THAT WATERKLOOF AIRPORT BE USED, SECRETARY MAY WANT TO CONSIDER HOLDING MEETING AND OVERNIGHTING IN PRETORIA INSTEAD OF JAHANNESBURG AS INDICATED PARA 5 REFTEL. LANDING AT PRETORIA HAS DRAWBACK THAT WATERKLOOF IS A MILITARY AIRPORT. ON THE OTHER HAND IT IS ONLY TEN MINUTES FROM PRETORIA, WHEREAS

THE ALTERNATIVE COMMERCIAL AIRPORT, JAN SMUTS, IS 40 MINUTES FROM EITHER PRETORIA OR JAHANNESBURG. DATT RECOMMENDS WATERKLOOF AS PREFERABLE FROM POINT OF VIEW OF AIRCRAFT SERVICING AND SECURITY. MOREOVER, PRETORIA OFFERS FULL EMBASSY FACILITIES AND FOR COMMUNICATIONS IT PROVIDES FOUR SIMULTANEOUS ON-LINE CIRCUITS. THOSE FACILITIES WOULD HAVE TO BE USED IN ANY CASE SINCE CONSULATE GENERAL JOHANNESBURG HAS ONLY ONE OFF-LINE CIRCUIT; IF SECRETARY WERE IN JOHANNESBURG, COMMUNICATIONS SUPPORT WOULD THEREFORE HAVE TO BE PROVIDED BY COURIER RUNS TO AND FROM PRETORIA 45 MINUTES AWAY.
BOWDLER

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